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Applicants : WEISS, et al.
Serial No. : 10/091,383
Filing Date : March 5, 2002
For : METHOD FOR THE MANUFACTURE OF LITHIUM
AMIDES

June 4, 2002

Hon. Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231
Box Missing Parts

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Eileen Sheffield

Signature

Date

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

SIR:

In advance of prosecution, please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Cancel claims 1-9, without prejudice and add the following new claims:

10. Method for preparing lithium amide comprising reacting lithium metal with ammonia to form lithium bronze reacting the lithium bronze with at least one of an 1,3-diene or an arylolefin in the presence of a solvent.

11. A method according to claim 10, wherein said 1,3-diene or the arylolefin is selected from the group consisting of butadiene, isoprene, piperylene, dimethylbutadiene, hexadiene, styrene, methyl styrene, naphthalene and of anthracene.

12. A method according to claim 10, wherein a stoichiometric quantity of 1,3-diene or arylolefin in relation to the lithium bronze is used in the second reaction step.

13. A method according to claim 10, wherein the first method step is also carried out in the presence of a solvent.

14. A method according to claim 10, wherein said solvent is at least one solvent selected from the group consisting of an acyclic aliphatic hydrocarbon, cyclic aliphatic hydrocarbon, an aromatic hydrocarbon and an ether.

15. A method according to claim 14, wherein said solvent is at least one solvent selected from the group consisting of pentane, cyclopentane, hexane, heptane, octane, cyclohexane, toluene, xylene, cumene, ethyl benzene, tetralin, diethyl ester, tetrahydrofuran (THF), 2-methyl-THF, tetrahydropyran, diisopropyl ether, dibutyl ether, dioxan, methyl-tert-butyl ether, glycol ether or a mixture of these substances is used as the solvent.

16. A method according to claim 10, wherein both method steps are carried out at temperatures of 0 to 30°C.

17. A method according to claim 10, wherein the ammonia that is released is reclaimed.

18. Lithium amide prepared according to the method of claim 10.

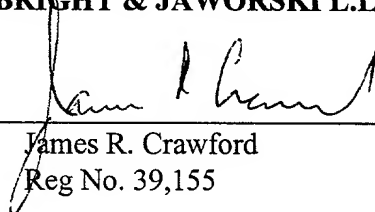
REMARKS

The purpose of this amendment is to conform the claims to U.S. practice.

If any fees are due to maintain pendency of this application, authorization is granted to charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 50-0624.

Respectfully submitted,
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Enclosures